4/13/67

Dear Shirley,

Thanks for your interesting undated letter with the Dallas enclosure. Now please take the time to sit down and write me the entire Schiller-Waldo story. I have got heard from him but I hope I do soon. I fear it is now too late for the information I asked for to be used in the present book, the draft of which I've finished and as soon as I get it to my agent I'm on other, delayed things. Manchester Machiavelli. Schiller is beginning to take different form in my minds. I would like al the detail possible

What you say about the Paines is fascinating.

I have not read and have forgotten about Trumpets of November, the title of which I do recall.

Lippmann's column is terrific. You did not misinterpret it. I have had a short but scathing correspondence with him. He was to have read the ms of the first book but then found he had no time. I told him it was very much part of what he spent his time on. Henow agrees, I am sure. Wrote him again, asking permission to quoye his piece in my Manchester book and asking if, after eading it, he would care to write an introduction. Ultimatly, Manchester and Roberts will help us. I'm challenging Roberts to debate his book every way I can. After the NYTimes ad for it saying he was versus me, I wrote the publisher to say he was versus many things and if he would like it I'd give him a list but I regreted not being able to get him versus me. Could he arrange it?

If you write Thayer please ask him to give me every detail, no matter how seemingly inconsequential.

Have "was Oswald Alone," started reading it, figured it is a pile of junk, and laid it aside. No time for necessary reading. Got a mailing from Kupferman today that seems like at last he's serious. I've been writing him stiff stuff about his original evasions. I'll read it tomorrow on the plane to Hobart College, where I speak....I do not think O's demand for Abt illogical. Recall, he also said he'd take any lawyer the CLU sent and so far as he knew they sent no one. He had no way of knowing the police turned Olds away....It is quite believable that Lee did not go to the rooming house. With Earlene dead we'll never know. But remember my work on the jacket. It apparently was not his. He could not have gotten it at work, where he left the other one....There could be one "foreign-sounding lday", from what I recall; Lady Jean Campbell, who was there then, for the Londeon Evening Standard. How does Marguerite know!

Id Ruth askingf for the return or replacement of herm property. She should, of the Minox, at least. It is possible. If she has any question, she should write AG Clark, who issued his order 10/31/66. I understand it is possible to get compensation without suit, although Bahmer did not so tell me. She can get the new-model Minox that way!

Harold

Harold: The enclosed can be thrwon away. I was interested in Novel's link with Andrews. But this probably means very little in a city such as New Orleans. Have you read "The Trumpets of November"?

no

Please read Lippmann's coulmn on the Manchester book. I found this very pertinent. Lippmann, having moved from Washington (as did Jackie) and having indicated over and over again recently his displeaseure with the way LBJ is conducting foreign affairs, makes a strong inference, in my opinion, in this book review that the assassination was not an isolated event, but may have instead been "a link in a chain of significant historic events."

This is the way I feel, of course.

Fabulous sentence Bobby Baker got.

Glad you got Thayer's brochure, statement, whatever. Thayer was interviewed last week in Mexico City by the FBI following his conversation with Lawrence Schiller about Bridewell (alleged Carousel meeting between Tippit-Weissman and Ruby). Thayer was in process of writing to you.

I am really impressed with Lippmann's analysis on the Manchester book. Be sure to read it. You will probably think I am easily agitiated!

Love to you both,
S.

Have you seen "Was Oswald Alone"? Not very good; many errors. Reasoning in book is good; however, as far as Lee Oswald was concerned, I think only 2 incidents were illogical: the alleged two identical phone calls to Ruth (I do not believe this) & his cries for Apt.

Marguerite says Lee did not return to rooming house, & I'll admit, I have always been intrigued by the "foreign-sounding" lady who was checking on restaurants in Oak Cliff on 25th or 26th for information on "our friend Lee Oswald." This lady claimed to be a member of the White House press. I don't believe this either. In regard to blackmail on Ruth, This in my

opinion, is tied in not only with the "odd" behavior of Lee's father ("odd" by establishment guide-lines) but the tension that existed in Ruth's own family. Living in the SW, I am impressed by the fear of economic retaliation everyone seems to live under. In my opinion Ruth was an early worker in the vineyard. She plays a silly game, making big-eyed inane remarks, such as: "What is a "stake-out"? and "Where does the scope go?" in addition to her classic remark (made to me on 2/7/64): "Do you think the government has done something it's ashamed of?" Ruth is not stupid; her old garage (was) full of posters pro-civil rights. She reads the New Republic. But her old house was empty otherwise of leads on how she thinks. (Her new house sports a modest book case of innocuous nothings.) She & Michael are always acting - Michael occasionally forgetting his lines. She adopts a coy-romanticism in his presence, while he thinks for the most part about his stomach. (He has ghastly eating-habits & eats as though he has an incipient goiter. His hands are cold & wet.) Ruth chatters on & on about his "love-letters" & wears little dowdy Swiss dresses (which do not become her). Her children are adorable, so well-mannered. She is a good woman, but a bore. Marina made some sharp remarks about her. But the most enervating feature (having to do with her company & conversation) is the ever-lasting play-acting. I am sure she & Michael do peripheral government work.